

What is claimed is:

1. A method for selling a commodity using a shopping site on a network, said method comprising:

5 judging whether a customer who has accessed via the network is a constituent member of a particular group;

selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer; and

10 selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer.

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2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

offering a first commodity catalog including the first sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group;

20 offering a second commodity catalog including the second sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group; and

25 selling the ordered commodity based on the first

sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the first commodity catalog, and selling the ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the second commodity  
5 catalog.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein a price of a commodity according to the first sales conditions is lower than the price of the commodity according to  
10 the second sales conditions.

4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising,  
judgging whether the customer is a constituent  
15 member of the particular group based upon the address used by the customer to gain access.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising,  
20 judgging whether the customer is a constituent member of the particular group based upon a route used by the customer to gain access.

6. A method for selling a commodity using a shopping  
25 site on a network, said method comprising:

certifying a constituent member of a particular group, and displaying a first commodity catalog including special sales conditions set for the constituent member of the particular group on a terminal of the constituent member, when the constituent member accesses the shopping site using a dedicated address;

displaying a second commodity catalog including ordinary sales conditions on a terminal of a customer other than the constituent member, when the customer accesses the shopping site using a general address;

selling the ordered commodity based on the special sales conditions upon receiving the order issued using the first commodity catalog, and selling the ordered commodity based on the ordinary sales conditions upon receiving the order issued using the second commodity catalog.

7. A method for selling a commodity using a shopping site on a network, said method comprising:

judging to which group among a plurality of particular groups a customer who has accessed via the network belongs;

selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a first group, upon receiving the order for the commodity

from the customer; and

selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a second group, upon receiving the order for the commodity from the customer.

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8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

offering a first commodity catalog including the first sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is a constituent member of the first group;

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offering a second commodity catalog including the second sales conditions to the customer, if the customer is a constituent member of the second group; and

selling the ordered commodity based on the first sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the first commodity catalog, and selling the ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions upon receiving an order issued using the second commodity catalog.

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9. A system for selling a commodity, said system comprising:

a certification information storage unit storing information for certifying a constituent member of a

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particular group;

5 a certification unit checking whether a customer  
is a constituent member of the particular group with  
reference to said certification information storage unit,  
when accessed by the customer via a network;

10 a commodity information storage unit storing first  
sales conditions that define conditions for selling a  
commodity to a constituent member of the particular group  
and storing second sales conditions that define  
conditions for selling a commodity to a customer other  
than a constituent member of the particular group; and

15 a selling unit selling a commodity based on a result  
of said certification unit and the sales conditions  
stored in said commodity information storage unit, upon  
receiving an order for the commodity from the customer.

20 10. The system according to claim 9, further comprising  
an offering unit offering the first sales conditions  
to the customer who has been certified by said  
certification unit and offering the second sales  
conditions to other customers, wherein

25 said selling unit sells the commodity to the  
customer based on the sales conditions offered to the  
customer when receiving an order for the commodity from  
the customer.

11. The system according to claim 9, wherein said commodity information storage unit stores the first and second conditions for each commodity.

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12. The system according to claim 9, wherein said certification information storage unit and said certification unit are owned or managed by a seller who sells the commodities.

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13. The system according to claim 9, wherein said certification information storage unit and said certification unit are owned or managed by the particular group.

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14. The system according to claim 10, wherein said offering unit displays a commodity catalog including the first sales conditions on the terminal screen of the customer who has been certified by said certification unit, and displays a commodity catalog including the second sales conditions on the terminal screen of a customer other than the certified customer.

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15. An apparatus for selling a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

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a providing unit providing a shopping site that can be accessed via a network;

5 a commodity information storage unit storing first sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a constituent member of the particular group and storing second sales conditions that define conditions for selling a commodity to a customer other than a constituent member of the particular group; and

10 a selling unit selling an ordered commodity based on the first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of the particular group, and selling an ordered commodity based on the second sales conditions if the customer is not a constituent member of the particular group, upon receiving an order for the  
15 commodity from the customer.

16. An apparatus for selling a commodity, said apparatus comprising:

20 a providing unit providing a shopping site that can be accessed at a plurality of addresses; and

a selling unit selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions when accessed by a constituent member of a particular group using a first address among the plurality of addresses, and selling an ordered  
25 commodity based on second sales conditions when accessed

by using a second address among the plurality of addresses,  
upon receiving an order for the commodity from the  
customer.

- 5      17. An apparatus for selling a commodity, said  
apparatus comprising:

        a providing unit providing a shopping site that  
can be accessed via a network;

- 10          a commodity information storage unit storing first  
sales conditions that define conditions for selling a  
commodity to a constituent member of a first particular  
group and storing second sales conditions that define  
conditions for selling a commodity to a constituent  
member of a second particular group; and

- 15          a selling unit selling an ordered commodity based  
on the first sales conditions if the customer is a  
constituent member of the first particular group, and  
selling an ordered commodity based on the second sales  
conditions if the customer is a constituent member of  
20      the second particular group, upon receiving an order  
for the commodity from the customer.

18. A terminal device used for purchasing a commodity  
from a shopping site on a network; said terminal device  
25      comprising:



an accessing unit accessing the shopping site,  
which offers a first commodity catalog to a constituent  
member of a particular group and a second commodity  
catalog to a customer other than a constituent member  
5 of the particular group, using a predetermined address;

a displaying unit displaying the first commodity  
catalog offered by the shopping site; and

an ordering unit ordering a commodity using the  
first commodity catalog.

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19. A recording medium that records a program, executed  
by a computer, for selling a commodity, said program  
comprising:

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a program code for judging whether a customer who  
has accessed via the network is a constituent member  
of a particular group;

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a program code for selling an ordered commodity  
based on first sales conditions if the customer is a  
constituent member of the particular group, upon  
receiving an order for the commodity from the customer;  
and

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a program code for selling an ordered commodity  
based on second sales conditions if the customer is not  
a constituent member of the particular group, upon  
receiving an order for the commodity from the customer.

20. A recording medium that records a program, executed by a computer, for selling a commodity, said program comprising:

5 a program code for providing a shopping site that can be accessed at a plurality of addresses; and

10 a program code for selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions when accessed by a constituent member of a particular group using a first address among the plurality of addresses, and selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions when accessed by using a second address among the plurality of addresses, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer.

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21. A recording medium that records a program, executed by a computer, for selling a commodity, said program comprising:

20 a program code for providing a shopping site that can be accessed via a network;

25 a program code for selling an ordered commodity based on first sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of a first particular group, and selling an ordered commodity based on second sales conditions if the customer is a constituent member of

a second particular group, upon receiving an order for the commodity from the customer.